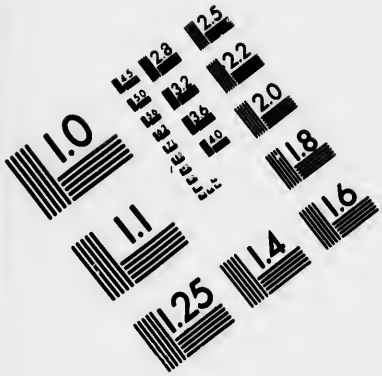

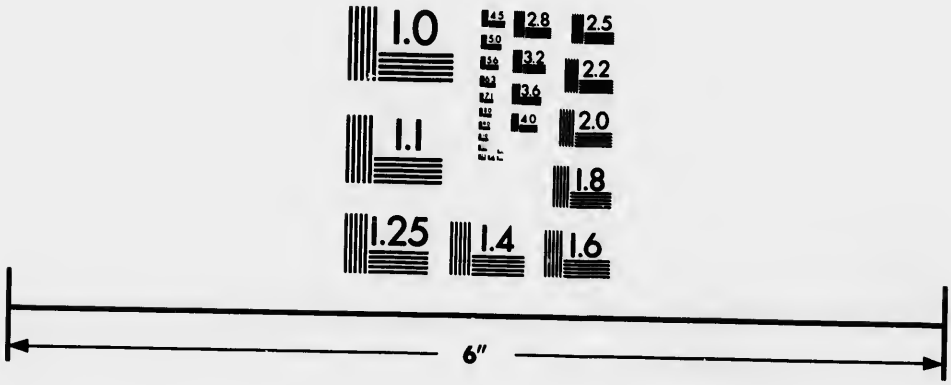

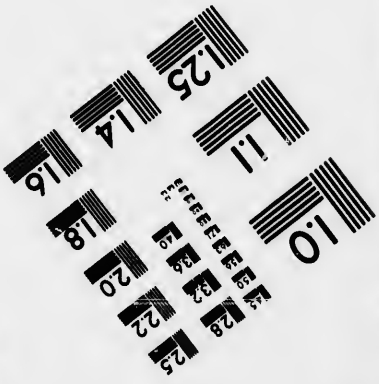

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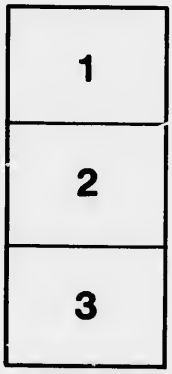

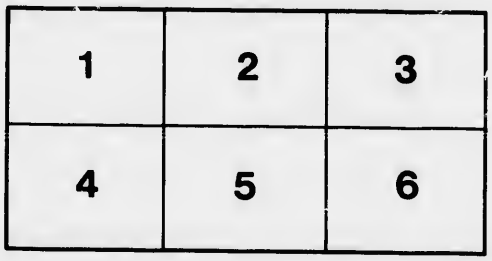

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MEMORANDUM

SHOWING THE SITUATION AND RESOURCES OF

THE SEIGNIORY OF TERRA FIRMA OF MINGAN

AND

THE SEIGNIORY OF THE ISLES ET ISLETS DE MINGAN

2

23149

Drawn & Printed by W. & A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh.

ROMAINE RIVER, ENCAMPMENT OF FLY-FISHERMEN. (PHOTOGRAPH No. 16.)

ROMAINE RIVER, ENCAMPMENT OF FLY-FISHERMEN. (PHOTOGRAPH No. 16.)

Drawn & Printed by W. & A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THE Proprietors of the Properties of the Seigniory of the Terra Firma de Mingan and of the Seigniory of the Isles et Islets de Mingan, desire to dispose of these Properties to a Limited Liability Company, with a view to their development. For all particulars apply to ALEXANDER DENNISTOUN, Esquire, 6 Belgrave Place, Edinburgh, where nearly fifty Photograph Views of the Property, taken in the summer of 1883, can be seen.

SEIGNIORY OF TERRA FIRMA OF MINGAN.

This property was granted in 1661 by the Company of New France to the Sieur François Bissot de la Rivière, and was held for several generations by his descendants.

The original grant was Feudal, but with all other Seigniories in Canada, it was changed into ordinary proprietorship by Statute.

The title is one of immemorial possession, uninterrupted from 1661 in the heirs Bissot, and in those who purchased from them.

The title was confirmed in 1837 by the Governor-General of Canada, Lord Gosford, who received the Seigneurs into "Foi et Hommage" for the territory from Cap des Cormorants to the "Baye des Espagnols," which is demonstrated to be Bradore Bay on the Bayfield Charts; this is in reality a new title to the territory specified.

The territory is partially under lease to the Hudson's Bay Company, and others, at moderate rentals.

This immense territory, occupying several hundred miles of coast-line, has numerous harbours and fishing-stations, and has recently been found to abound in valuable minerals. It only requires the application of capital to become of enormous value.

SEIGNIORY OF THE ISLES ET ISLETS DE MINGAN.

This property was granted on the 10th of March 1679 by Duchesneau Chevalier du Roi, Intendant of Canada, to the Sieurs Jacques de Lalande et Louis Joliet, and was held for several generations by their descendants.

The grant was confirmed by the King in council at Fontainebleau on the 29th May 1680, and registered on the 4th October the same year.

The grant comprises all the islands and small islands which are on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence from Cape Cormorant, the western boundary, to the bay called l'Anse aux Espagnols. They are between three and four hundred in number, the largest being about ten miles long and five miles broad; they contain many excellent harbours, and some of them are thickly wooded with spruce, birch, and poplar.

MEMORANDUM

Showing the Situation and Resources of the two properties known as The Seigniory of the Terre Ferme de Mingan and The Seigniory of the Isles et Islets de Mingan.

THESE properties are situated on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in the Province of Quebec, Canada. They are coterminous in extent, the western boundaries being at Cape Cormorant, which is about fifteen miles to the east of the river Moisic, and the eastern boundaries at the Baie des Espagnols, which is a short distance to the west of the Straits of Belleisle. The distance between these two points is about 350 miles.

The Seigniory of Terre Ferme de Mingan, with the length just given, has a breadth of six miles, making an area of about 2100 square miles, or 1,344,000 acres. The Seigniory of the Isles et Islets de Mingan consists of upwards of 300 large and small islands. The largest is about ten miles long and five miles broad.

Numerous excellent harbours are found in both of these properties, and every acre on them belongs to the present proprietors, no concessions having been granted or sales made. The owners of these properties thus virtually control and command the best sea-fishing waters attached to the Dominion of Canada.

The right of sea-fishing in any of these waters is, of course, available to every British subject, but the profitable business of catching and curing fish can only be carried on by those who have possession of either the mainland or the islands for erecting fishing and curing establishments.

The present is a peculiarly appropriate time for directing attention to the great river and sea fishing resources and other undeveloped wealth of these properties, in consequence of the vast

mass of information which has been accumulated and made public concerning the most improved methods now employed in all countries for catching, curing, preserving, and transporting to market fish of all kinds by the Fisheries Exhibition in London and the publications resulting therefrom. The papers prepared by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, by Mr. Brown Goode, United States Commissioner to the Fisheries Exhibition; by Mr. Duff, M.P., and by Mr. Joncas of the Canadian department, show the enormous development of the fishing industries of the world during the last ten years, more especially those of the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and of Canada. Even by taking advantage of the information thus placed within reach by means of the Fisheries Exhibition, to regulate and guide the profitable outlay of capital for the purpose of developing the fishing resources of these properties, it is impossible to form any correct estimate of the dimensions their fishing industries might assume during the next ten years, but with judicious management it would certainly amount to a large sum annually.

The resources of the properties may be thus summarised :—

Rod-fishing for salmon and sea-trout in more than twenty rivers.

Net-fishing for salmon at more than eighty stations.

Net-fishing for seals in winter.

Seal-hunting with steamers in Gulf of St. Lawrence in March and April.

Cod-fishing with boats and hand-lines.

Cod-fishing with boats and schooners by long lines.

Cod-fishing with nets as in Norway.

Herring-fishing with nets.

Mackerel-fishing with nets and hand-lines.

Steam-trawling for halibut, cod, haddock, plaice, etc.

Manufacture of cod and other fish oils.

Manufacture of isinglass and fish guano.

Receipts from rents paid by or land sold to present squatters and future settlers attracted by the development of the varied industries of the territory.

Development of vast beds of pure peroxide of magnetic iron sand, of rock iron ore, and of copper and other minerals, of which valuable indications and samples have been obtained.

The long winter and severe climate is against the cultivation of the soil, but potatoes and turnips have been grown at the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Mingan for eighty years. The average return of potatoes has been ten bushels for every one planted. For some years oats have also been cultivated at St. John's river, near Mingan, and cut green to make winter fodder for cows, which are successfully kept at many stations on the coast.

THE SUPPLY OF LABOUR.

The question from whence the supply of labour to develop these fisheries could be obtained is a very important one.

The services of a gentleman having great experience in the development of Canadian fisheries could probably be obtained as Manager, and under him, as Local Overseers, two or three others who have heretofore very successfully established and prosecuted such fisheries on the coast. A certain number of men experienced as fishermen and shoremen could be hired from among the population resident on the properties, and from the French parishes of the Province of Quebec.

There are about four thousand natives of the British Provinces employed in the fisheries of the New England States of America, many of whom would gladly return to their native country on obtaining similar profitable employment.

A large proportion of the fishermen employed in the French fisheries of Newfoundland and its banks leave France every spring, and return again every autumn. Many of the men employed by Jersey fishing firms on the south shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence leave the Channel Islands, and return again every year.

These facts may lead to a careful inquiry :—Could not the fishing crofter population of the Highlands of Scotland find profitable summer employment in these Mingan fisheries, with great benefit to all parties concerned ?

Five hundred men could be taken out in a steamer from a port in the West Highlands of Scotland, and landed at Mingan in ten or twelve days, at a cost of not over £2, 10s. per head, and after a summer's work on the coast could be returned at the same cost, should they not desire to remain,—leaving in May, returning in November.

REPORT ON THE SEIGNIORY OF MINGAN.

THE property or estate known as the Seigniory of Mingan is situated on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and extends from Cape Cormorant, the western boundary, to the Baie des Espagnols, the eastern boundary.

Its length as the crow flies is about 350 miles, with a breadth of six miles; and it has a shore-line of more than 400 miles.

The area is about 2100 square miles, or 1,344,000 acres.

This property commands the best sea-fishing waters in the Dominion of Canada, and the cash value of the produce of the sea taken by the squatters on this property in the year 1881 amounted to $623,000, or over £125,000.

It possesses a great number of excellent harbours, and it is intersected by eighteen fine rivers, on ten of which large and valuable salmon fisheries are carried on, while on the other eight smaller fisheries are worked. During the season of 1882 eighty-five separate licences to set salmon nets were issued within its boundaries.

The Seigniory of Mingan is admirably situated for becoming the headquarters of a very valuable seal-fishery, which might be carried on by steamers built for sealing and trawling. These might be wintered in the harbours of Mingan, Esquimaux Point, and Natashquan. The small schooners owned by squatters on the property have for years past had good returns from this enterprise, but such schooners have no chance whatever of success, in comparison with steamers, in carrying on such a pursuit.

Very extensive fishing-banks, abounding with cod, plaice, flounders, and haddock, are to be found at greater or less distances from the coast, along the whole of the Seigniory. In the year

1881 the value of the cod fishery within the Seigniory was about $500,000, or over £100,000, and this amount could be enhanced manifold by the judicious use of increased capital and labour.

There are several Jersey fishing firms squatters on the property, who have erected large establishments for catching and curing cod, which they export to the West Indian islands, Brazil, and the countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea. These firms employ men brought out from Jersey for the season, and also men hired in the French parishes of the Province of Quebec. The fishing is altogether done with hand-lines. If steam trawlers and nets for catching cod, such as those now used in Norway, were commonly employed, the catch of fish of all kinds would be very greatly increased. The fishery for mackerel, halibut, and sea-trout is now almost entirely neglected, though formerly extensively carried on by Americans and by the Hudson's Bay Company with much success. These fisheries are certainly capable of great development. The manufacture of seal oil, cod-liver oil, and of isinglass and guano, or fish manure, from the offal of all fish caught, could be carried on extensively and profitably.

The property has been gradually squatted on during the last twenty years by a number of Acadians and French Canadians, with others, who have built about 400 houses, of the average value of about $200 each, or £40 to £50. None of these squatters have obtained any right of possession, and can be removed, or made to pay reasonable rents, by the owners of the property.

A large portion of the Seigniory is covered with a thick growth of spruce, birch, and other trees perfectly adapted for the supply of wood required for all fishing and boat and schooner building purposes, and for the manufacture of barrels and boxes to be used in exporting fish, etc., also for the purpose of making charcoal for the manufacture of iron. Any number of railway ties, which might be easily shipped, could be procured.

The property contains vast beds of rock iron ore, and also of magnetic iron sand ore, which latter can be obtained simply by surface digging; and the deposits contain from 20 to 60 per cent. of pure magnetic peroxide of iron. A cheap and simple process, by the use of magnets, the success of which has been thoroughly tested on a large scale, separates the pure ore from the sand and other impurities with which it is mixed, so as to contain not more

than 3 to 5 per cent. of extraneous matter. Several processes by which this oxide of iron can be converted into iron and steel have been discovered and are being perfected, and the steel so made has proved to be unequalled in quality for manufacturing the finest kinds of cutlery, tools, and armour and boiler-plate.

The analysis of this peroxide of iron ore gives 70 per cent. of iron and nearly 30 per cent. of oxygen as the result.

Very promising discoveries of copper ore and other valuable metals, and also of labradorite, have lately been made on the property and samples obtained. The discoverer is very sanguine that these mineral deposits will prove to be of great value.

Excellent fly-fishing for salmon and sea-trout is obtainable in most of the rivers running through the property, during the months of June, July, and August, and as soon as regular steam communication with the coast has been established, a large revenue would be obtained from lease of these rod-fishings.

When considering the value of a property of this kind, it is necessary to bear in mind the fact that fish, as an article of food for the million, is becoming year by year a greater staple of consumption by the population both of this country and of America, and that by the improved processes of freezing fish, and the use of refrigerating cars and steamers for their transport, packed in snow and ice, fish of all kinds can now be sent in a perfectly fresh and sound state all over America, and even to Britain, from the Mingan fishing-grounds. It must also be taken into account that the large mass of human food thus obtainable from fisheries requires no attention or expense from man, as is the case with domestic animals used for food. Fish take care of and feed themselves, and the very valuable harvest of the sea has only to be gathered. The demand can never cease, and while other kinds of food keep at the high and gradually increasing prices of the last few years, the average value of fish cannot decline.

From the year 1803 to the year 1863 the Hudson's Bay Company rented from the Seigniors of Mingan all the salmon fisheries of the Seigniory. In the latter year the Government of Canada passed an Act appropriating all the salmon fisheries of the Dominion, but after years of litigation, in the month of May 1882 the supreme legal Court of Canada rendered a decision that the above-mentioned Act was illegal, and therefore all rights

of salmon-fishing on these properties have reverted to the proprietors.

The Hudson's Bay Company still continue to rent the trading-posts at Mingan harbour and Musquarrow river, for fur-trading purposes.

STATEMENT compiled from the CANADIAN GOVERNMENT BLUE-BOOK ON FISHERIES, 1882, of the Quantity, Value, and Description of Fish, etc., caught within the boundaries of the Seigniory of Mingan during the year.

Salmon fresh and in tins, 50,820 lbs., at 5 cents per lb., . .	$2,541.00
Salmon in barrels, 913 barrels of 200 lbs. each, at $18 per barrel,	16,434.00
Seal skins, 6454, at $1.$\frac{25}{100}$ each, ...	8,067.50
Seal and whale oil, 30,387 gallons, at 50 cents, ...	15,193.00
Cod dried, 73,201 quintals, at $6 per quintal, ...	439,206.00
Cod oil, 83,740 gallons, at 50 cents per gallon, ...	41,970.00
Herring, 8954 barrels, at $5 per barrel, ...	44,770.00
Caplin herring and launce for bait, 54,065 barrels, . . .	54,065.00
Halibut, 88 barrels, at $6 per barrel, ...	528.00
Cod tongues, 11 barrels, at $9 per barrel, ...	100.00
Trout, 97 barrels, at $8 per barrel, ...	776.00
Value of catch by residents on Seigniory, ...	$623,650.00
Caught by other schooners within Seigniory bounds, 35,000 quintals of cod, at $6 per quintal, ...	210,000.00
Total catch in bounds of Seigniory, £172,241, or	$833,650.00

STATEMENT compiled from the CANADIAN GOVERNMENT BLUE-BOOK ON FISHERIES, 1882, of the number of Schooners, Boats, and Nets owned by Squatters on the Seigniory of Mingan.

	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Value.
Schooners, . .	48	2119	295	$40,950.00
Fishing-Boats, . .	832			34,385.00
Flat Boats, . .	471			7,991.00
Number of Fishermen,			1656	
Number of Shoremen,			970	
		Yards.		
Salmon Nets, . .	242	21,782		9,147.00
Cod Seines, . .	23	2,790		3,650.00
Herring Seines, .	17	1,760		1,582.00
	282	26,332	2921	$97,705.00
About 400 houses have been erected on the Seigniory (in addition to large cod-fishing and curing establishments) by Squatters; estimated value, say $200 each, which is a low average to take, ...				80,000.00
Value of plant and houses all made within a period of twenty years, £35,500, or . . .				$177,705.00

DETAILED ACCOUNT of the Coast of the SEIGNIORY OF MINGAN, from Cape Cormorant to the River Natashquan, to explain and illustrate the Photographs taken by Mr. Alexander Henderson of Montreal, 1883.

CAPE CORMORANT, the western boundary of the above Seigniory, is a small peninsula between sixteen and seventeen miles east of the Moisic river, and one and a quarter miles to the west of the river Basin, which is a small river, with rapids a quarter of a mile from the entrance.

The distance eastward from this river to the Manitou river is ten miles, within which the three rivers, Hotteurs, Fall River, and Buchan, are passed in the order named. They all fall in cascades into the sea, or close to it.

When the Manitou river is reached, it is found to be one of the largest on the coast, but not much frequented by salmon, as half a mile from its mouth it falls 120 feet perpendicularly in one unbroken sheet of water, forming one of the most beautiful cascades in Canada.

Four and a half miles further to the east is Shallop river, of a fair size. We were unable to visit Shallop river, and know nothing respecting the salmon or trout fishing to be obtained there. A small establishment for cod-fishing and curing is located here.

Sawbill or Sheldrake river is next reached, seven and a half miles further. It affords good shelter to fishing-boats and coasting craft. On the long tongue of land between the estuary of the river and the sea Messrs. C. & R. Collas have established a cod-fishing and curing station, where 5000 to 6000 quintals of dry cod are cured each year, and their buildings to carry on the fishery have cost from $20,000 to $25,000. (*See Photographs Nos.* 47 *and* 48.)

A short distance further east is Primrose Cove, where a cod-fishing establishment is located, but we were unable to visit it.

Thunder river is next reached, which forms an excellent harbour for boats and other craft; vessels drawing ten feet can enter the river. Messrs. C. Robin & Co. have here a large and very complete fishing establishment for cod; the quantity of dry

fish cured last year was about 4000 quintals. (*For illustrations, see Photographs Nos.* 43, 44, 45, *and* 46.)

The next point is Indian Harbour, where over 5000 quintals of codfish are cured, and three miles further Ridge Point, where the last year's return of dried codfish was 6000 quintals. We were unable to visit either of these places on account of rough weather and high sea.

In a bay two miles to the eastward is Iupitagan river, a considerable net-fishing station for salmon. Rod-fishing has not been tried on this river, but the reports by Indians are it would probably afford fair fly-fishing.

Two miles further east we come to Magpie Point. Here are to be found two of the finest fishing establishments on the coast, erected by Messrs. C. Robin & Co. and Messrs. Boutillier Brothers. Both of them are models of neatness and efficiency: the buildings on the two stations have cost about $50,000.

A Roman Catholic church and the houses of several squatters are seen along with these stations in the photos. (*See Photographs Nos.* 40, 41, *and* 42.)

At the centre of Magpie Bay, three miles further east, we come to Magpie river, a large and rapid stream, the entrance to which is only sixty feet wide. At a short distance landward the river falls over a ledge of rocks thirty feet high. Salmon are numerous here, and more than one hundred barrels have frequently been taken in the nets at its mouth in a year. There is only one pool between the sea and the falls, in which good rod-fishing for both salmon and sea-trout can be got. A salmon pass could easily be made here, which would enable salmon to ascend the falls, and thus greatly improve the fishing of the river.

At a distance of five miles further east the St. John's river is reached. This large stream discharges a great quantity of water, and is noted for its extensive salmon and cod fisheries, the former both by nets and rod. This river forms an excellent harbour for fishing-boats and coasting craft. At the entrance it is 260 yards wide, but the breadth increases to nearly half a mile immediately within the entrance, and then decreases again gradually.

Four large cod-fishing and curing establishments have been located here, viz. those of Messrs. C. Robin & Co. and Messrs. Hamilton Brothers at the mouth of the river; of Mr. Sirois and

Messrs. C. & R. Collas at the upper village, some half-mile from the entrance.

In 1882 there was exported from this river about 14,000 quintals of dry codfish, 5000 gallons of cod-liver oil, and 20,000 lbs. of fresh salmon. Reference to the photographs numbered as under will give a good idea of this river and its stations :—

Photographs Nos. 33 and 34 depict the establishment of Messrs. C. Robin & Co., the former showing the buildings and the view looking seaward ; the latter, looking landward, shows the flakes or stages for drying cod in the sun.

Photograph No. 35 gives a distant view of the upper village of the St. John river, with the establishment of Mr. Sirois on the right, and the church on the left, with the harbour of the river in the foreground.

Photograph No. 36 gives nearly the same view, with cod-fishing boats in the foreground.

Photograph No. 37 shows Mr. Sirois' landing-stage and salting-room, with cod-fishing boats in the foreground, and the houses of the Government Inspector and River Guardian in the distance.

Photograph No. 38 shows the landing-stage and buildings of Messrs. Collas in the upper village.

Photograph No. 39 gives the house of the Government Inspector on the left, and the house of the Guardian of the river on the right, where the Post-Office is kept.

After leaving St. John's river, the next fishing-station to the eastward is Longue Point, distant nine miles, between which points there is a broad beach of fine sand. An extensive deposit of black iron sand, or magnetic peroxide of iron, is found along the whole of this tract, and also for some distance to the west of St. John's river.

At Longue Point there are three establishments for cod-fishing, but, owing to personal circumstances, the enterprise has not been prosecuted with much energy at this place for the last year or two, and only 3000 quintals of dry codfish were exported in 1881.

Five miles to the eastward of Longue Point the harbour of Mingan is reached. Here the principal trading-post of the Hudson's Bay Company on this coast has been located for eighty years. That Company has paid rent to the Seigniors of Mingan for the right to occupy the post during all that period.

This harbour is formed by the narrow and well-sheltered space that is between Harbour Island and the mainland. It is quite secure from all winds, and has this great advantage, that vessels of the largest tonnage can enter or leave it, either with easterly or westerly winds.

Photographs Nos. 21 and 22 show the harbour with its eastern and western entrances.

Photograph No. 19 shows the Hudson Bay Company's buildings at Mingan.

One mile east of the post is the entrance to the river Mingan, long noted for its salmon and trout fisheries, both by net and rod.

Photographs Nos. 30, 31, and 32 give various views of the falls on the Manitou river, a tributary of the Mingan river. These falls are distant from the post about three miles, and there is an excellent pool for rod-fishing immediately below them.

Photographs Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27 give various views of the Mingan river, with its falls, salmon pools, and camping-grounds of rod fishermen. Fly-fishing for salmon on that river begins about one and a half miles from the post, and goes up to the falls, a distance of three miles. The months of June and July are the best for rod salmon-fishing, and August for sea-trout fishing.

Nine miles to the eastward of Mingan we reach the Romaine river, the largest on the coast, except the Moisic. There is no settlement here, only the house of the Guardian of the river, which is celebrated for its fly-fishing for salmon, and carries large-sized fish. It is considered by those who have fished its waters to be one of the finest salmon rivers in Canada.

Photographs Nos. 16 and 17 show the large pool on this river, with an encampment of fly fishermen by its side.

Nine miles to the east of the Romaine we come to the village of Esquimaux Point, the most extensive settlement on the coast.

Twenty-five years ago there was not an inhabitant at this place, now there are more than 200 houses and a population of over 1000 souls.

A Roman Catholic Bishop and his clergy reside here, and a large fine church has been built, with school-houses attached. The inhabitants own and have themselves built twenty-four schooners, and last year they sold the produce they had taken

from the sea at a price exceeding $185,000, making an average to each household of $925, or nearly £200 sterling. Their houses are substantial and comfortable.

Photographs Nos. 9 and 10 show part of the harbour, and the storehouses for fish, oils, and seals.

Photographs 11, 12, and 13 give views of the church, with the Bishop's residence and schools.

Photographs 14 and 15 represent a number of the settlers' houses, and prove their substantial and comfortable nature and appearance.

Between Longue Point on the west, and St. Geneviève Island on the east, a distance of about forty-five miles, are the Mingan Islands proper, twenty-nine in number. Some of them are very small, and the largest does not exceed eleven or twelve miles in circumference; but some of them are well wooded, with small birch, spruce, and poplar.

Proceeding eastward from Esquimaux Point, at about twenty miles' distance, we reach Betcheween harbour and village, containing about twenty houses. This is a newly-settled place, and its inhabitants have not made the same progress as at Esquimaux Point, but they have built and own six schooners.

Photographs Nos. 7 and 8 show the harbour and village, the former looking eastward, the latter westward.

Between this village and the harbour and village of Little Natashquan is a distance of about fifty miles, in which section we pass the following rivers, all of them containing salmon and trout, viz.—La Corneille, the Piashter, Grand Watcheeshoo, Little Watcheeshoo, Nabissipi, and Agwanus.

At Corneille, Watcheeshoo, Nabissipi, and Agwanus, salmon netting was formerly carried on extensively and profitably by the Hudson's Bay Company. These rivers have all been neglected and poached, but, with careful guardianship, they would improve, and salmon again become plentiful for both rod and net fisheries. Piashter, near Corneille, is a celebrated stream for sea-trout fishing.

The village and harbour of Little Natashquan are situated three miles to the north of the mouth of the river Natashquan. The village consists of about fifty houses, with a church and schools, and, considering its size, is nearly as far advanced in com-

fort as at Esquimaux Point. Near the village, and in the inner harbour, is the establishment of Messrs. C. Robin & Co., one of the best on the coast, the buildings of which it is composed having cost over $25,000.

During one day of the past summer more than sixty tons weight of codfish, or about 135,000 lbs., were brought to this place by the fishing-boats connected with it.

The harbour here is an excellent one for vessels of any size, and much used by schooners and other craft. It would prove most valuable for the shipment of the immense deposits of magnetic oxide of iron found in this neighbourhood. (*See Photographs Nos.* 3, 4, 5, *and* 6.)

Proceeding eastward, our next point is Natashquan river, a large stream where extensive fisheries for salmon are carried on. When the writer was there in 1875, during one day 1150 salmon were taken by the nets in the estuary, and in the year 1882 about 1030 fish were taken in the same time at the same place.

Many seals enter this river, and the cod-fishing banks off its mouth are both extensive and very productive.

The Hudson's Bay Company have had a post here since 1803, but as they do not deal in or receive sea-fish of any kind, the importance of this post has decreased. (*See Photographs Nos.* 1 *and* 2.)

After passing the mouth of Great Natashquan river very large deposits of magnetic iron sand are found, extending to a distance of some twelve miles. These deposits are in many places very rich, as sand can be gathered in large quantities containing from 40 to 60 per cent. of pure magnetic oxide of iron. These beds seem destined ere long to become of great value.

Some fourteen miles eastward from Natashquan, Kegashka river is reached, where a valuable net salmon fishery is carried on.

Some three miles to the eastward of this again Kegashka bay and village are reached, where there is a settlement of some twenty houses and a good harbour.

Five miles further on is Musquarro river, where there is a Hudson's Bay Company post and an Indian church, also several stations for salmon nets.

Proceeding another five miles east we reach Washshecootai bay and river, where a trading and salmon-fishing post of the

Hudson's Bay Company used to be carried on. Four miles up the bay the first falls are met with, and on this beautiful river an excellent summer's fly-fishing for two rods could be got.

Here the writer's personal knowledge of this coast ceases, but from this place to the boundary of the Seigniory many salmon rivers are known, where net fisheries are successfully carried on, and though on these waters rod-fishing has never, so far as is known, been tried, there is every reason to suppose that good rod-fishing would be obtained on most of them.

For further description of the coast, see the *St. Lawrence Pilot*, volume 1st, by Bayfield, and the admirable charts connected therewith.

THE FISHERIES OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

If the nations of Europe still remain in the dark as to the importance of Canada as a portion of the British Empire, as a home for the emigrants of all countries, and as a region of vast extent and manifold and practically unlimited resources, it surely is not owing to any lack of means of information, or to the absence of effort on the part of our statesmen, writers, and accredited agents, to make our Dominion known to the rest of the world. . . . Thanks to the International Fisheries Exhibition, our maritime, inshore, and inland fisheries have had the chance of comparison with the like sea and river products of other lands. Indeed, there has been no occasion for presenting our claims as contributors to the world's food supply for many years past which has placed us at better advantage than the event just mentioned. . . . Not the least interesting feature of the Exhibition was the holding of conferences, at which addresses were delivered and papers read on subjects as to which visitors needed information. It is satisfactory to know that, in this respect too, Canada was admirably represented. Some of the publications to which the Exhibition directly, or indirectly, gave rise, are of considerable scientific, commercial, or industrial value. The natural history of fishes, the relations of mankind to them from the earliest times of which there is any record, the use of fish for food, the laws enacted with regard to them, the artificial culture of fish—in fact, the whole literature of fishes, of fishing, of fisheries, and of pisciculture, from the scientific, social, legal, and all other points of view, was taken up and discussed by persons fitted from their special knowledge to deal with it. Every one of such monographs, if thorough in its treatment, must have more or less to say of Canada, and, to that extent, will Canada be the gainer, as to mention her fisheries must be to commend them.

Of the papers that were read to audiences, and were meant to elicit discussion and further information on the subjects of them, there were several which were partially, others wholly or almost wholly, concerned with Canada. Sir T. R. G. Maitland's paper, for instance, on the "Culture of *Salmonidæ* and the Acclimatisation of Fresh-water Fish," included more than a reference to Canada, and suggested some valuable remarks from Mr. Wilmot, our Commissioner, who moved the vote of thanks to the learned Baronet. Another of the papers was entirely devoted to "The Fisheries of Canada," and was introduced by some suitable words from our Minister of

Marine and Fisheries, the Hon. Mr. M'Lelan. The paper in question, read by Mr. L. Z. Joncas, divided our fisheries into two great classes—the sea fisheries and the fresh-water (or lake and river) fisheries. The former again are divided into the cod, the herring, the mackerel, the lobster, and the seal fisheries, while the latter comprise those of salmon and trout, white fish, and other lake and river fish of varying value. Mr. Joncas gave quotations from the Hon. Dr. Fortin's reports as to the habitat, habits, numbers, and mode (both offshore and inshore) of catching the cod, which he confirmed and enlarged from his own observation. He cited the Marine and Fisheries Report for 1881 to show that the quantity of dry fish exported that year represented a value of $5,602,250, while oil, etc., made the total exports from the cod fishery reach a sum of $5,828,156. Next in importance comes the herring fishery, valued (according to latest statistics) at $1,721,822. The mackerel fishery has only lately begun to be appreciated, but its value has already attained the figure of $1,694,942, while the lobster fishery, almost unknown ten years ago, now represents a commercial value of nearly $3,000,000, and the seal fishery, of between three and four hundred thousand dollars. To these figures must be added those of the fresh waters of Canada, the exports of which reached last year the sum of $3,174,533. As to the home consumption, there are no trustworthy statistics, but the amount must be considerable. This brief statement will give some notion of the value of our fishery interests, which will increase as their importance becomes known to the rest of the world, and to this result, as we have aimed to show, the recent International Exhibition has largely tended.

Drawn & Printed by W & A K Johnston Edinburgh

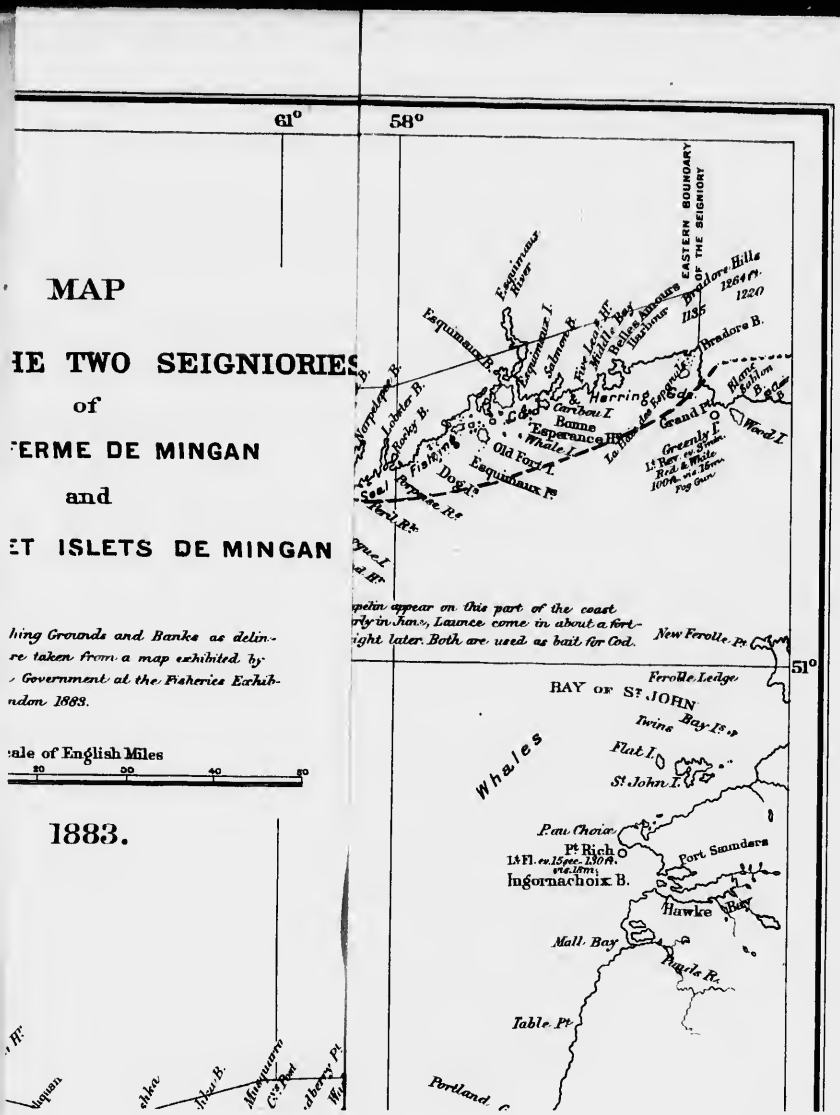
ESQUIMAUX POINT CHURCH, AND ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP'S RESIDENCE. (PHOTOGRAPH No. 12.)

Drawn & Printed by W & A K Johnston Edinburgh

HUDSON BAY COMPANY'S POST, MINGAN HARBOUR. (PHOTOGRAPH No. 19.)

Drawn & Printed by W & A K Johnston Edinburgh

TWO COD-FISHING ESTABLISHMENTS AT MAGPIE POINT. (PHOTOGRAPH No. 41.)


MAP
HE TWO SEIGNIORIES
of
ERME DE MINGAN
and
ET ISLETS DE MINGAN
hing Grounds and Banks as delin-
re taken from a map exhibited by
Government at the Fisheries Exhib-
ndon 1883.
ale of English Miles
20
30
40
50
1883.
61°
58°
51°
EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SEIGNIORY
Esquimaux River
Esquimaux B.
Esquimaux I.
Salmon B.
Five Leaf Hr.
Middle Bay
Belles Amours Harbour
Bradore Hills
1264 ft.
1220
1135
Bradore B.
Narpelque B.
Lobster B.
Rocky B.
Fishing
Seal
Porpoise Rs.
Dog Is.
Old Fort I.
Esquimaux Is.
Bonne Esperance Hr.
Whale I.
Caribou I.
Herring
Grand Pt.
Greenly I.
Wood I.
Blanc Sablon B.
Pelin appear on this part of the coast
rly in June, Launce come in about a fort-
ight later. Both are used as bait for Cod.
New Ferolle Pt.
Ferolle Ledge
BAY OF St. JOHN
Twins
Bay Is.
Flat I.
St. John I.
Whales
Pau Choix
Pt. Rich
Ingornachoix B.
Port Saunders
Hawke Bay
Mall Bay
Table Pt.
Portland

MAP

SHEWING THE TWO SEI

of

TERRE FERME DE MIN

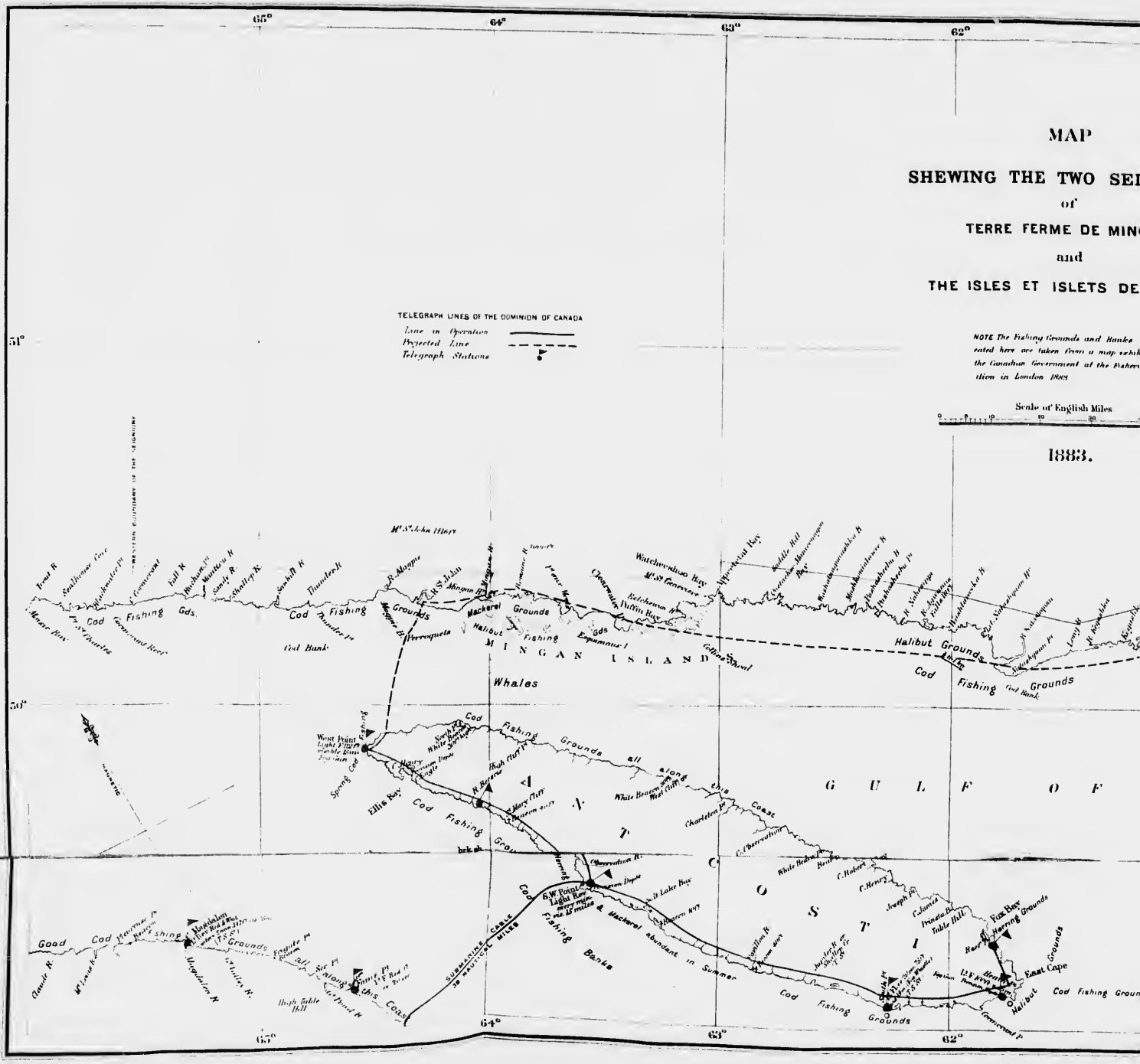
and

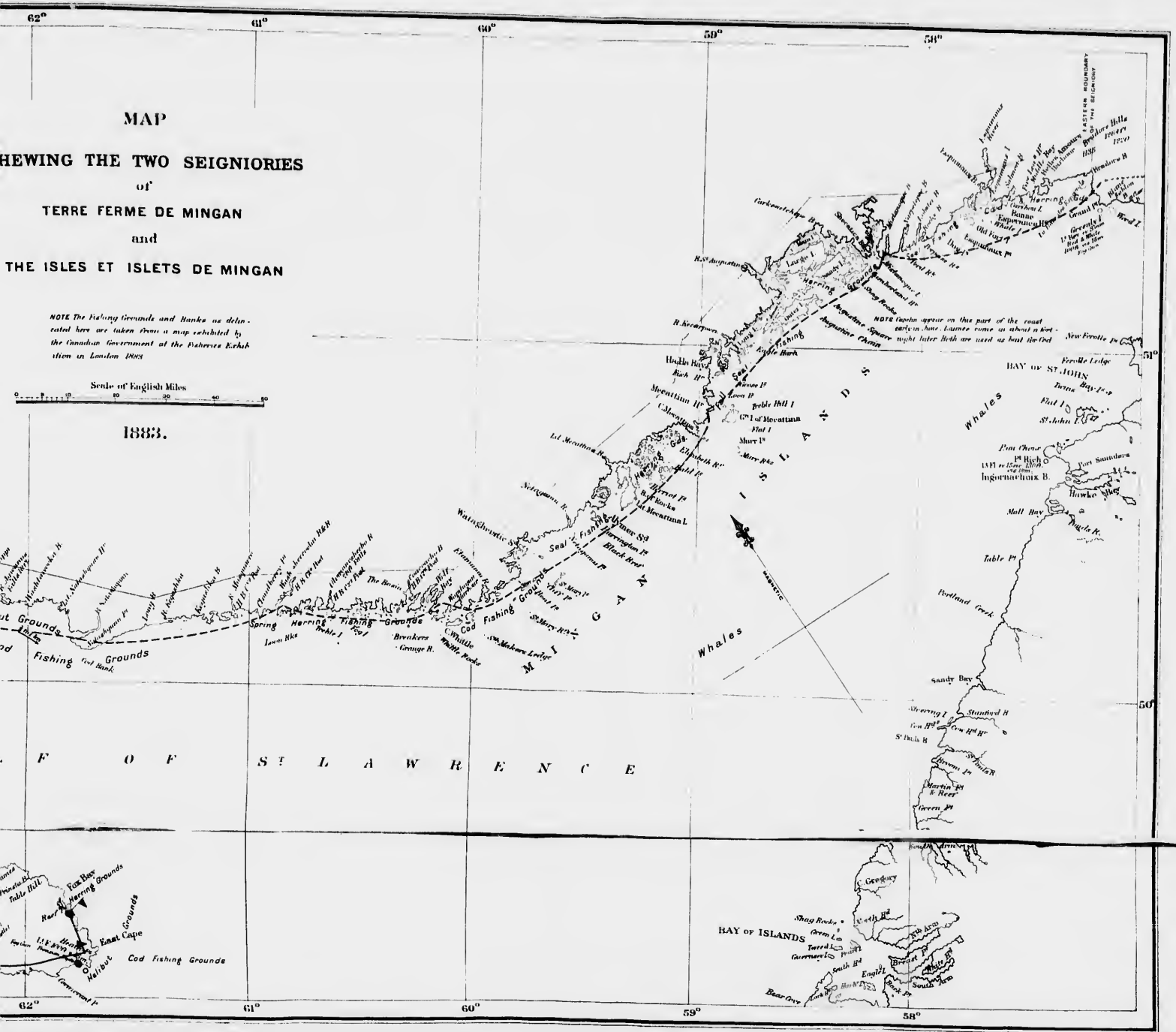
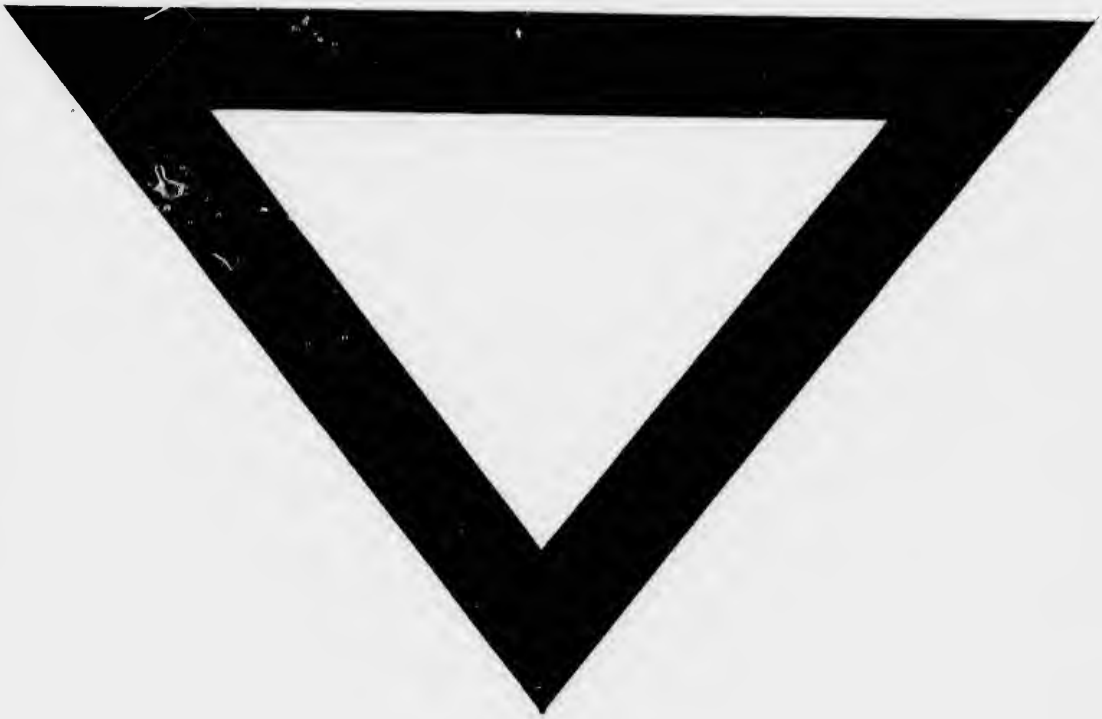
THE ISLES ET ISLETS DE

NOTE The Fishing Grounds and Banks
ated here are taken from a map exhi
the Canadian Government at the Fisher
ition in London 1883

Scale of English Miles

1883.




MAP
HEWING THE TWO SEIGNIORIES
of
TERRE FERME DE MINGAN
and
THE ISLES ET ISLETS DE MINGAN
NOTE The Fishing Grounds and Banks as delineated here are taken from a map exhibited by the Canadian Government at the Fisheries Exhibition in London 1883
Scale of English Miles
1883.
62°
61°
60°
59°
58°
51°
50°
EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SEIGNIORY
NOTE Capelin appear on this part of the coast early in June. Launce come in about a fortnight later. Both are used as bait for Cod
Augustine Square
Augustine Chain
Herring Grounds
Seal Fishing
Mecattina Hr
Mecattina I
Cod Fishing Grounds
Spring Herring Fishing Grounds
Cod Fishing Grounds
Fox Bay
Herring Grounds
East Cape
Halibut
Cod Fishing Grounds
Whales
Whales
MINGAN ISLANDS
BAY OF ST JOHN
Ingornachoix B.
Port Saunders
Hawke Bay
Mall Bay
Table Pt
Portland Creek
Sandy Bay
Stanford B
St Pauls B
Martin Pt & Reef
Green Pt
BAY OF ISLANDS
C. Gregory
Shag Rocks
Green I
Tweed I
Guernsey I
South Hd
Eagle I
Breast Pt
Bear Cove
South Arm
Lithographed by W & A K Johnston Edinburgh